



第4話



GLOVE: FOR PRO TEST USE
CTL NOTE: "PRO TEST", NOT
"PROTEST"!

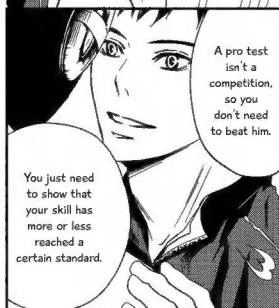


Blue number
50,
red number
52.

Is number
53
present?

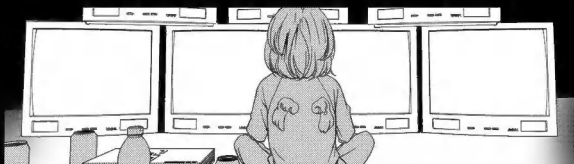


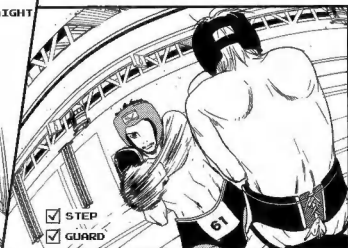
Got it.



A pro test
isn't a
competition,
so you
don't need
to beat him.

You just need
to show that
your skill has
more or less
reached a
certain standard.

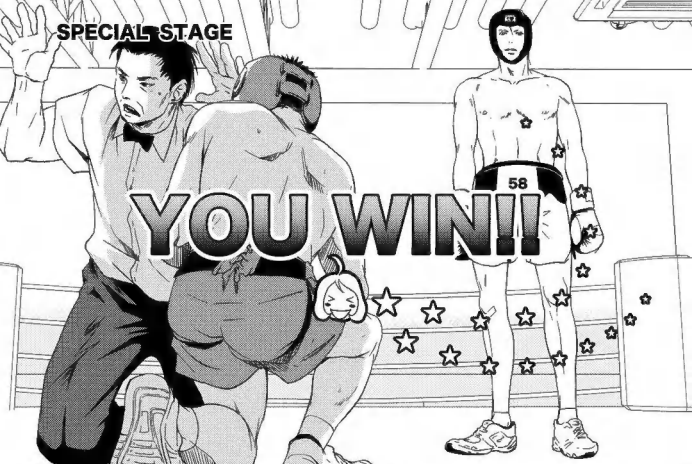




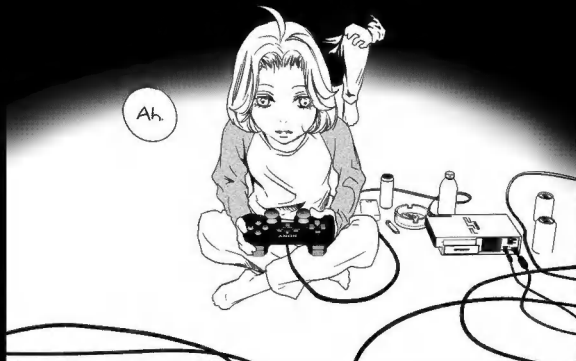


SPECIAL STAGE

YOU WIN!!!



Ah.





You
somehow
seem to be
doing
unwanted
things.



Even
though
Yutaka is
pretty much
saying it's
okay not
to win.

Even
though
Yutaka's
praise
changes
nothing.



Somehow
you really are
trash.

☒ BOW (4 SIDES)



Well
done!

Hey hey,
wasn't
that
awesome!

That has
the ring
of
truth...

I heard it was the Mikoshiba gym that essentially made Hirota into a champion.

A welter-weight?
A middle-weight?

I feel
sorry
for his
opponent...

For real,
a super
pretty-
boy!

A
foreign
pro.

whisper

whisper



brush



stare


I've got no complaints about that.



It was
the third month
since I met Kei.
As the rainy season
approached,
he passed his pro test,
leaving an
overpowering
impression.



He should have been feverish and screaming.




In fact, too heavy a load would begin to cause liver and kidney damage.

Before that, his spirit would be whittled away.



Even so, I was beginning to have my doubts.


Singlemindedly, or perhaps indifferently, Kei completed the program.




Kei started a strength training program more suitable for an advanced pro than a newly-minted one.



Heavy loads shredded his muscles and cracked his bones.



In the fifth month, when as though arranged in advance, the cicadas began their great chorus,



Through this repeated breaking down and building up,



his physique was reborn.



In the fourth month, when everyone was abuzz about the approaching severe typhoon,



if I said "Come", Kei came to the gym without missing a single day.



Difficult things were easy for him.

This was
exceptional.



This was
beyond
easy or hard.



TL NOTE: ACCORDING TO THE 2006 NHK ISSIP SURVEY OF RELIGION IN JAPAN, 34% OF JAPANESE ADHERE TO BUDDHISM, 3% TO SHINTO, 1% TO CHRISTIANITY, AND 1% TO "OTHER". THE REMAINING 61% DID NOT CLAIM ADHERENCE TO ANY RELIGION.



In the seventh month, when the shopping district was hasty with its Christmas decorations,



he won his debut fight with a second round KO.

He thus gained his basic-level C boxing license and began to show his unusual drawing power.





That was
a brilliant
debut
fight.



Strength?

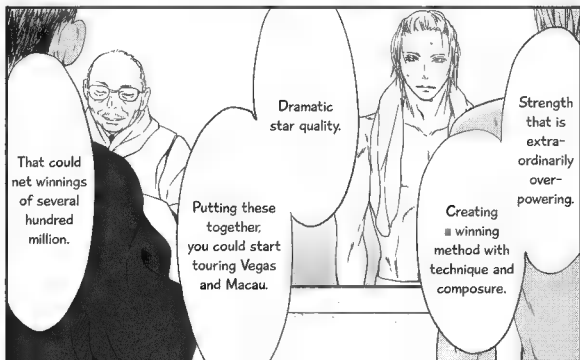
The ability
to win
a belt?

That isn't
enough.

—Shiraishi-kun,
do you know
what it takes
to become
a top boxer?

I'm
Arakawa,
from the
Arakawa
gym.

You don't
seem to
remember
me.



That could
net winnings
of several
hundred
million.

Dramatic
star quality.

Putting these
together,
you could start
touring Vegas
and Macau.

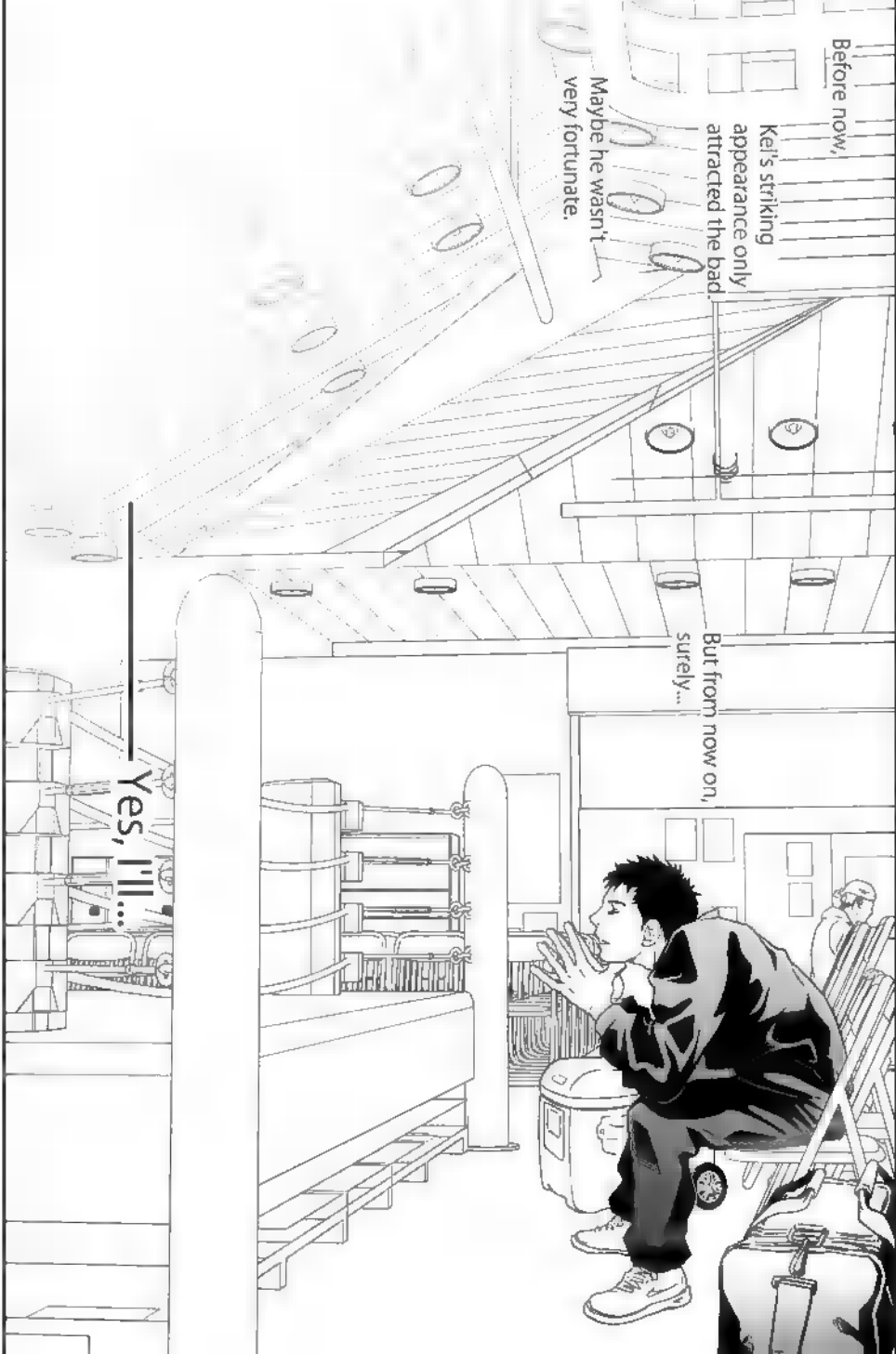
Creating
a winning
method with
technique and
composure.

Strength
that is
extra-
ordinarily
over-
powering.



You have the talent.

No doubt sent from the gods—a gift.



Before now,
Kei's striking
appearance only
attracted the bad.
Maybe he wasn't
very fortunate.

But from now on,
surely...

Yes, I'll...





I want
to continue
being
a trainer,

Father.



because
I like training
more than boxing.



I can tell
by watching you.




heh



From now on,
seek out
your own way.

Sport
advances
along with
science.

Don't be
a slave
to my
methods.




Boxing is
a cruel sport
that draws
the starkest contrast
between the winner
and the loser.

If you win,
you get a taste
of being the king
of the world.

If you lose,
knocked down
with all eyes
upon you,
it is not only
your body
but also
your pride
that suffers
a deep wound.



—Yes
sir.



You're a trainer
who can become
a companion,
drawing close
to that boxer
in his solitude.

...I'll take Kei to a bright future.

For Kei,
who without
exception
eats whatever
he is given,
it depends
on what I cook.

The question
is his
weight class.
Whether
to cut weight
or not.

This week's
portion
is all set.

Kei...

...is never distracted
by idle thoughts.

That simplicity, that phenomenal
power to assimilate.

Almost all great athletes
are probably like that.

Wavering about nothing.

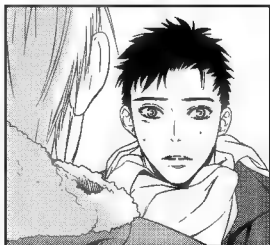


Kei.

If there
ordinarily
wasn't much
emotion,
then someone
like you
just couldn't
be emotional.

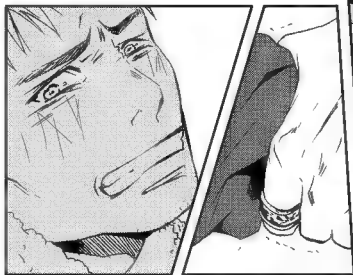
that was
probably
due... to the
environment
in which he
was raised.

But
after all,



It's
been a
whi—le.







...now
you say
you're
sorry!!

But...

...when you
wouldn't
say you
disliked me.

I put up
with it...



Hey,
hit
me!

Ah!

Hit
me.

Aren't
you a
boxer?



No,
no...
if you
say that,
then...!

Stop-

No...







...then
stand up
now.



W-

yank

-aa!



whiff



stop



stagger





Then,
should I
kill him?







What do you know about Kei other than how he looks?



If someone's pretty, you corral him shamelessly.

Such a success.

Now I remember.
Weren't you completely fascinated by him to begin with?



It'd be easy to get ripped off if you were seduced by that face-

Shut up.

Did you get dragged into a crime?



...sorry.

Don't come here again.



A



Fa

th

ēr

What's...
with
those
eyes...

Kei...

ki

ni

TL NOTE: ANIKI MEANS
"ELDER BROTHER".



Another
BUG.



After you
appeared,
trash keeps
pouring in
that has
nothing to do
with progress
in the game.



2



If you can't function properly as a trash can, the hardware might get damaged.




... "I'm sorry, Father."



Kei.








For a boxer,
that would be
the same as
threatening
someone
with a knife.

Kei,
you mustn't
say stuff like
"should I
kill him".

Then don't
let yourself
get hit.



This was
the first time
it happened,
so I'm not sure,
but is that what
it feels like
to snap?

When I saw that,
it was like
my head
shorted out.



Because
of that,
I can't do it,
whatever you
tell me.





...I understand.



Thank you...



Waa-

Wai-

huh

huh

huh

stare...



?

shove

shove

Get going to your part-time job!!

...honestly!!

Thank you...



